



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE  
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## **FORMER FIREFIGHTER INDICTED ON CHILD PORN CHARGES**

PHOENIX-- A federal grand jury in Phoenix on Thursday returned a two count indictment charging a former firefighter Robert Wayne Kuenzli, of Phoenix, with receipt and possession of child pornography that had been shipped and transported in interstate commerce.

Kuenzli was arrested on November 3, 2006 by federal agents from U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement. According to the criminal complaint filed in district court, ICE agents had previously received information from Canadian authorities that an individual using the Internet Protocol (IP) address at Kuenzli's residence could be involved with the sexual exploitation of children. According to the complaint, agents conducted a consent search of his residence and an interview with Kuenzli, during which he acknowledged using his computer to receive images of child pornography from the Internet. During the search, numerous images of children engaging in sexually explicit conduct were discovered on his computer hard drive.

U.S. Attorney for the District of Arizona Paul K. Charlton stated, "This case should serve as a warning to parents everywhere that child pornographers are not easily classified, and do not fit a single profile. Our thanks to the Canadian authorities and ICE for the investigation that resulted in this indictment."

Special Agent in Charge of ICE Office of Investigations Alonzo R. Pena, stated "The successful indictment of Kuenzli reflects the positive benefit that can be achieved through cooperative efforts of law enforcement in both Canada and the U.S. However, it also indicates that the Internet has created a very far reaching international market for child exploitation."

According to the Phoenix Fire Department, Kuenzli was a probationary firefighter for approximately a 10 month period, and is no longer employed with the Phoenix Fire Department. Prior to his employment with the Phoenix Fire Department, Kuenzli was employed for several years with the Kingman Fire Department.

Phoenix Fire Chief Bob Khan said, "We are supporting the efforts of the U.S. Attorney's Office and the law enforcement investigation and appreciate their hard work to keep the State of Arizona safe."

A conviction for Receipt of Child Pornography carries a maximum sentence of 20 years, a \$250,000 fine or both. Possession of Child Pornography carries a maximum sentence of up to 10 years, a \$250,000 fine or both. In determining an actual sentence, the judge will consult the U.S. Sentencing Guidelines, which provide appropriate sentencing ranges. The judge, however, is not bound by those guidelines in determining a sentence.

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An indictment is simply the method by which a person is charged with criminal activity and raises no inference of guilt. An individual is presumed innocent until competent evidence is presented to a jury that establishes guilt beyond a reasonable doubt.

The investigation preceding the indictment was conducted by U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement and the Saskatoon Police in Canada. The prosecution is being handled by Vincent Q. Kirby, Assistant U.S. Attorney, District of Arizona, Phoenix.

CASE NUMBER: CR-06-1035-PHX  
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